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THE GRASSY KNOLL GAZETTE

VOL. 1 NO. 1 MARCH 1, 1977

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

Who are the murderers of America's leaders--its Presidents, its Presidential candidates, and who has forced others still not to run for President? This newsletter will address itself to these questions, and others, and hope to come up with some answers. In a sense, then, this is "another publication about assassinations". There are, and have been, several such publications; exemplary among them have been PEOPLE AND THE PURSUIT OF TRUTH, published by Berkeley Enterprises, Newtonville, Mass., and THE CONTINUING INQUIRY, published by Penn Jones, Jr., of Midlothian, Texas. Also, a book review magazine, BooksWest, deserves mention here, inasmuch as they are the only publishing industry magazine which covers assassination news and reviews books about assassinations on a regular, continuing basis. To their credit, they are really the only such "book trade" publication to acknowledge that this controversy even exists. Some other newsletters and magazines on this subject have fallen by the wayside in past years, having served their purpose.

This newsletter will not attempt, consciously, to emulate the style, approach, or philosophy of any of the aforementioned. We will try to report on new developments in the investigations of these crimes which have shaped our lives, review pertinent new (and some old) books concerning the same, but we will do it in our own way. We do not aspire to make money off it, and any resemblance to the publications mentioned above is purely incidental and irrelevant.

Now, realistically, the assassination of JFK, MLK Jr., RFK, the attempt on the life of candidate George Wallace (which forever removed him from the running), and the removal of Ted Kennedy from contention by use of a contrived "scandal" are all unsolved cases. A spate of recent books about Ted Kennedy and Chappaquiddick, all embracing in one form or another the "hanky-panky" scandal-coverup approach, (which we were obviously meant to swallow from the beginning), in addition to "Castro shot JFK in revenge" stories the CIA and others have tried to pawn off on the public lately, are examples of the kind of efforts still being made to sidetrack the American public from the truth. Some of the real culprits are known. Hopefully others, dead or alive will exposed in the months, or years, to come.

Why, then, THE GRASSY KNOLL GAZETTE? And why at this time? What is its raison d'être? The answer is that the editor knows too many people, friends and such, who are interested in these assassinations and so on, and are skeptical, to say the least, of the findings of the "official inquiries" into them. Yet they can never seem to find the time to study these affairs, to look into them more deeply. It is possible that they are just too busy. This newsletter may, heaven forbid, serve as their only real source of information other than, save us, the newspapers or the television. It may even inspire some to further study, that is if they can find the time. Then our job will have been done. For it is painfully apparent that Mr. and Ms. American do not read, at least not very much, and certainly nothing very important. "Say, dear, have you seen my copy of 'Roots'?"

At the same time, will will try to be serious enough to be of use to to more serious students and investigators. But not too serious; sometimes if you look

closely enough, you just might find a tongue in our cheek--ours. Humor is a valuable and effective weapon, and we certainly will not hesitate to use it.

Lastly, special thanks to the many whose hard work over the past thirteen years or so has made it possible for us to sit here and write this--Harold Weisberg, Sylvia Meagher, Richard E. Sprague, Dick Russell, Mark Lane, Fred J. Cook, "James Hepburn", William Turner, Joachim Joesten, Donald Freed, Wayne Chastain, Ralph Holmes, David Wemple, "Jim" Garrison, Peter Noyes, Harker Goody, Peter Dale Scott, Josiah Thompson, Robert Sam Anson, W.C. Thompson, Henry Gonzalez, Milton Viorst, Assassination Information Bureau, a fine Massachusetts yankee named Robert Cutler, and a good ole Texan name of Penn Jones, Jr. And many others whom space does not permit us to mention here, now.

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NEWS BRIEFS

As this is being written, Jimmy Carter's latest nominee for CIA Director, Admiral Stansfield Turner, seems to stand a reasonable chance of confirmation. Ted Sorensen, of Camelot fame, of course never stood the faintest chance of serving the CIA in any capacity, and it is hard to understand why Carter even tried to have him appointed CIA director, unless, of course, he only meant it as a warning to the Agency that he will try to keep them under control. It is doubtful, to say the least, that he can do this. Look for a warning from the CIA to Mr. Carter or Mr. Mondale in the near future. For a military man like Adm. Turner to head the Agency at this time is not an encouraging prospect, so we will have to simply take a "wait and see" attitude for the time being toward the Admiral, if he is confirmed.

Sorensen received a lot of flak for his use of so-called "classified" data in his book, Kennedy, and this was definitely the factor used to block his confirmation. Use of top secret classified material did not seem to be a factor at all, however, in the confirmation proceedings for Gerald R. Ford (the former Leslie King, Jr.) a couple of years ago. Ford took information which was classified "top secret" and used it in his book, A Portrait of the Assassin, (co-authored, or rather ghost-written, by the late John Stiles) and subsequently lied about it during his confirmation hearings when he claimed that, to the best of his knowledge, he had not utilized any classified material in the making of his book.[1] In some circles, among less powerful men, this is known as perjury.

As this is being written, also, there is a major development in the House Select Committee on Assassinations, chaired by Representative Henry Gonzalez (D-TEXAS). Gonzalez has fired chief counsel Richard A. Sprague (not to be confused with researcher-writer Richard E. Sprague, who is no relation), but Sprague has refused to vacate his office, and has been backed up by the other eleven members of the Committee. It may come as a surprise to some readers, but we fully back Gonzalez' action in firing Sprague, although there is necessarily some question as to his authority to do so.[2] We only hope that either the members of the Committee will reconsider their support, or Mr. Sprague will reconsider and resign for the good of the investigation. Both prospects are doubtful, however.

It is our feeling that Sprague has been out to scuttle the investigation from the beginning. It may be a shocking idea, but we have learned long ago that there are forces within the government's structure that will stop at nothing to stop the American public from learning the truth about the assassinations of its leaders, as well as other "seamy things". For one thing, Sprague's request for a $13 million budget for two years (roughly $500,000 per month!) was sure to cause a big ruckus in the halls of Congress and sour many congressmen on the idea altogether. In addition, Mr. Sprague announced in advance his intention of using

"hidden microphones" as well as voice stress analysers in the investigation. It is our feeling that a man who is serious about investigating these crimes would not reveal this information before the investigation had even gotten started because (1) all future interviewees would be tipped-off and on guard and (2) all concerned civil libertarians would be pissed-off. This is what has actually happened. Long-standing civil libertarians are enraged, and furthermore have been joined by recent converts to libertarian ideals who simply are looking for an excuse to dump the investigation. Is Sprague, then a "fifth-columnist" who tried to do an inside job on the investigation? If so, he would appear to have succeeded, because, as of this writing, the House Select Committee on Assassinations, which was limping along on only a couple of cylinders anyhow, appears on the verge of being junked altogether. Rep. Jim Collins (D-TEXAS) said in a prepared statement that "there is no proved evidence that has come available that would justify Congress in creating the Witch Hunt Committee."[3] And so it goes on. It's the same old line, but due to recent developments, it would seem that many more are now ready to take up the tune.

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Justice Department officials recently completed a 10-month "review" (indeed) of the evidence in the Martin Luther King assassination and found--guess what--no evidence that any conspiracy existed.[4]

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A recent Associated Press item reported that a Dallas nightwatchman, R.H. "Dick" Lester, turned over to the FBI a bullet he discovered in Dealey Plaza two years ago with the aid of a metal detector. A most important consideration is just where in the Plaza the bullet was found, but the article makes no mention of its location. The item further stated that the FBI would make microscopic comparisons between the slug and the other assassination bullets to "determine if it had any bearing on the President's assassination."[5] Nor was any mention made of possible or pending spectographic or neutron-activation analyses, and we must wonder if we will ever hear of this bullet again.

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Tino DeAngelis is back in the news again. The great Salad Oil Swindler was caught this time with his hands in a greasy pork deal. A November 17, 1977 article in the Wall Street Journal reports that DeAngelis had set up the Rex Pork Co., and had enticed investors, through an ad, to give him, besides money, a lot of hogs and little porkers, and in the end they wound up with a lot of bad checks and uncollectible IOU's.

Those of you who have read Were We Controlled by Lincoln Lawrence (apparently a pseudonym for former radio commentator Art Ford) will probably remember that the author of the book makes mention of "The Rumor", that a consortium of evil businessmen with German-Argentinian origin, used DeAngelis, without his prior knowledge, to make a killing (no pun, really) of over $1 billion by selling-short on the Stock Market just before the President was killed. According to Lawrence, Tino's "Great Salad Oil Swindle" of 1963 was one of the vehicles for this financial killing. The book is frankly unbelievable to us, albeit fascinating, and we repeat it here only for your information. For more detailed information, consult Were We Controlled by Lincoln Lawrence,(University Books, Inc., New Hyde Park, N.Y., 1967).

A reporter who telephoned DeAngelis about this new enterprise (Rex Pork) received this reply: "You're going to get--I'm not threatening you, you understand me--I'm not going to do anything to you, but you're going to get what you deserve out of life." Subsequently, Tino told the same reporter, "I don't care what you put in your paper, but if you publish anything about me and it's untrue, I'll cut your (obscenity) throat from ear to ear. I did 15 years in prison, and nobody's ever going to hurt me again."

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Convicted Watergate bungler E. Howard Hunt seems set for parole on or around February 25, that is if he can come up with the money to pay the $10,000 fine. Surely E. Howard must have some friends with some cash assets... Meanwhile, Hunt has filed a $2.5 million libel suit against the authors of Coup d'Etat in America, Michael Canfield and A.J. "Garbage" Weberman, as well as against the book's publisher, Joseph Okpaku of Third Press.[6] Okpaku, who claimed he was "unconcerned", left for Nigeria the day after the papers were served, August 13. Canfield was said to be looking forward to going to court. Said he, "This would be the first time the JFK assassination was tried in a court of law."[7] Ahem. Well...

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Those among you who thrilled to Larry Schiller's recent TV account of the execution of Gary Gilmore may not be aware of Schiller's long career as an anti-critic of the Warren Report. Schiller, by owning the rights to the "Gary Gilmore Story", stands to make a tidy profit on the book and the movie to come. Schiller also had the rights to Jack Ruby's story, and he smuggled a tape recorder into Parkland Hospital to record Ruby's deathbed "confession" that, yes, he was acting on his own when he dispatched Lee Harvey Oswald. This dramatic revelation was featured on a Capitol Records album entitled The Controversy. This record was followed by a book, co-authored by Warren Lewis, The Scavengers and Critics of the Warren Report. The title should tell you all you need to know about Schiller and his work. Lewis, the co-author, penned several magazine articles, such as "Carroll Baker: The Lady Was a Tramp", and "Those Swinging Beach Movies".[8]

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DEALEY PLAZA BREAKDOWN

This is planned as a regular feature, and will deal with certain strange "coincidences" and other matters which do not set quite right.

Dealey Plaza Breakdown #1: The Foiled Chicago Plot Against JFK

For those among you who are not yet convinced that the U.S. Government will go to any length to cover up the truth about the murders of its leaders, we present the following story. You are cordially invited to stroll through it, preferably not just before bedtime. It is an excellent place for us to begin this series, for it is the story of the first confirmed plot to assassinate President John F. Kennedy. It took place in very early November, 1963, just three weeks before the one that succeeded.

On or around November 1, 1963, the Secret Service uncovered a plot to assassinate JFK. The murder was to have been accomplished in Chicago, during an 11-mile motorcade hosted by Mayor Daley on November 2, or, more likely, during the Army-Navy football game afterwards which the President was scheduled to attend. The plot involved at least four men, and the Secret Service was aware of the identities of at least two of them. Apparently one of them was arrested in connection with the plot, but we will come to that later.

It should be noted here that the Secret Service seemed to take the plot very seriously. The President was persuaded to change his plans, due to the sudden emergency situation in South Vietnam. Diem and his brother had been assassinated in Saigon, and the regime had been toppled in a bloody coup. It was a convenient, if real, excuse to hurry JFK out of Chicago and back to Washington where the Secret Service could better protect their boss. As a result, the President's life was spared, and he lived three more weeks.

The handling of the situation in Chicago seems to have been without precedent. The Secret Service's agent-in-charge ordered the agents under his direction to make direct, oral reports directly to him. No written reports were to be filed. They were to send nothing by TWX to Washington. The case was not to be given a file number. Three weeks later, immediately after the President had been successfully eliminated in Big D, the same agent-in-charge called together his agents and, incredibly, ordered them to turn in their identification badges. This is significant in that there were numerous reports of persons using SS identification behind the fence on the grassy knoll in Dealey Plaza, and also in the area of the Texas School Book Depository. The Secret Service, by their own account, had no agents stationed in Dealey Plaza during the motorcade, except for those who were in the motorcade itself. And all these agents went directly to Parkland Hospital. Yet policemen and spectators who rushed to the area behind the fence, where the majority of witnesses thought shots had come from, encountered men who showed SS identification.

One of the agents involved in foiling the Chicago was Abraham Bolden, a black man and the first black Secret Service agent to ever be assigned to the White House Detail. By all accounts he was an excellent and conscientious agent. Very shortly after the President was killed in Dallas, Bolden tried to make arrangements to testify before the newly-created Warren Commission. Bolden wanted to tell the Commission of the plot which was foiled, or at least interrupted, in Chicago. He also wanted to tell them about the general laxity he had observed in the President's protection by the agents on the White House Detail. He was informed by his superiors that he was not to discuss the Chicago plot with members of the Warren Commission, or anyone else.[9]

On May 17th, 1964, Bolden and other agents were sent to Washington, D.C., for some special classes apparently unrelated to the Chicago affair. With Bolden was a "baby-sitter" agent, whose job was to keep a sharp eye on Bolden to make sure he did not contact the Warren Commission or its staff. Bolden went to the Executive Office Building near the White House and tried to call the home of J. Lee Rankin, the Commission's Chief Counsel. Bolden did not reach Rankin, but the call was overheard by the "baby-sitter", Garry McLeod.

Early the next morning Bolden and McLeod received instructions to return to Chicago on the pretext of the investigation of a large counterfeiting ring. Once in Chicago, Bolden was seized, placed in the custody of U.S. Attorney Hanrahan, who years later was indicted, and subsequently acquitted, in the Fred Hampton-Mark Clark murder conspiracy. Bolden was held incommunicado and finally, after twelve hours, was charged with soliciting a bribe in connection with the counterfeiting case.[10] Legally, Bolden had been kidnapped by the Secret Service, since he had been brought to Chicago under a false pretext. The reason for his being called to Chicago was so that he could be arrested, and had nothing to do in reality with the counterfeiting caper. Although he could have just as easily have been arrested in Washington (since the charges were Federal and under the authority of The Secret Service), the Secret Service apparently was very interested in getting him out of Washington, fast.

The charge against Bolden was that he had agreed to sell a file to Joseph Spagnoli, a counterfeiter, for $50,000. He was to have split the money with another counterfeiter, Frank W. Jones. The sole witnesses against Bolden were these two men, both convicted counterfeiters. One subsequently admitted he had lied about the case.[11] Nevertheless, Bolden was convicted and sent to the Penitentiary, after the first trial had ended in a mistrial. The judge, in refusing Bolden a new trial on the evidence of perjury having been committed, stated that "Maybe I'll give you a fair trial next time. Maybe the evidence won't show that he's guilty this time."[12]

As a result of all this Bolden served six years in prison, and the Warren Commission found no conspiracies.

Scary, isn't it? But there's more to this story. Chicago Police records for November 2, 1963, the day of the aborted plot in Chicago, show the arrest of a man named Thomas Arthur Vallee. The time of Vallee's arrest is shown on the record as 1:15 PM. His nationality is given as "French American", and the cause for arrest is "traffic violation and carrying concealed weapon (knife)." Witness against the arrested man is given as Daniel Groth, of Chicago, who is said to have often "hung around" the Secret Service office in Chicago.[13]

Now here is the most interesting part: on the arrest report, under the space marked "aka" (also known as in police parlance), is the cryptic notation "M.1.(Rifle)"! Could this be an error? Seems unlikely, since the space for "weapon" is filled in with the notation "knife", and is not at all near the space for "aka". It could be this is some kind of code name. It certainly is a little awkward for a nickname. The Chicago Police Department's file of potential assassins is said to contain a report on Vallee, although the photo is missing.[14]

The remaining piece of the puzzle was provided with the publication of U.S. Government Publication #94-465, entitled "Alleged Assassination Plots Involving Foreign Leaders--An Interim Report of the Select Committee to Study Governmental Operations With Respect to Intelligence Activities". Dated November 20, 1975, it reveals that the CIA had, under the direction of Richard Bissell and the Director of the Agency, Allen Dulles (later he served as a member of the Warren Commission), set up an "Executive Action" program. This is described as "a project for research into developing means for overthrowing foreign political leaders, including a capability to perform assassinations." Although it is claimed by the CIA in this report that the "Executive Action" phase was never implemented, Chicago-based Mob figures were to have been used prominently in this program. The names mentioned are Robert Maheu (Howard Hughes' aide), Sam "Momo" Giancana, and John Roselli. Since the publication of this report, the latter two have met with untimely and violent ends. Coincidence again.

The code name of this CIA/Mob program was ZR/RIFLE. You are invited to compare ZR/RIFLE with the "aka" of Thomas Arthur Vallee, of Chicago--M.1.(Rifle).

Footnotes

1 J. Gary Shaw with Larry R. Harris, Cover-Up, Cleburne, Texas, 1976, p.217

2 "Slaying Probers Reverse Chief's Firing of Counsel", Richmond Times-Dispatch, Feb. 11, 1977.

3 "Justice Study Finds No Plot In King Death", Washington Post, Feb. 3, 1977.

4 Ibid.

5 "FBI To Examine Dallas Bullet", Richmond Times-Dispatch, Jan. 6, 1977, p. A-2.

6 BooksWest, Sept. 1977, p.12.

7 Ibid.

8 Penn Jones, Jr., Forgive My Grief II (Article by Bill Turner), Midlothian, Texas, 1967, pp. 156-165.

9 Bernard Fensterwald, "The Case of Secret Service Agent Abraham W. Bolden", Computers and Automation, June, 1971.

10 Ibid.

11 Ibid.

Footnotes (Cont.)

[12] Ibid.

[13] Inside, Straight, No. 3, April 20, 1976.

[14] Ibid.

[15] Ibid.

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Book Reviews

The Yankee and Cowboy War: Conspiracies from Dallas to Watergate.
by Carl Oglesby. Sheed Andrews and McMeel, Inc. 355 pages. $12

Reviewed by
Ralph Holmes, Jr.

Carl Oglesby is a terrible writer.

Throughout The Yankee and Cowboy War he treats you to such gems as, "Is it not mischievous in serious polemic to decontextualize remarks made in a heightened context?" and, "Something in fact may be quite wrong, the wrong may be of Satanic magnitude, and there is no way the standard statistic-ridden, political-sociological models employed in conventional federal-academic discourse can even focus the structured character of what is wrong." Whew!

Come on, Carl--gimme a break!

For most of the book he seems intent on impressing you with how smart he is by using loads of big and expensive words. He only succeeded in confusing me.

So much for style. Now for content.

Oglesby's main thrust is that the various assassinations and other political shenanigans from the Big D to Watergate are the result of a power struggle between "Yankees" and "Cowboys". Yankees being basically Eastern Establishment, liberal, and old money; Cowboys basically southwestern, conservative, and relatively new oil money.

Well, this theory may or may not be true. Personally, I don't buy it. Too pat. Too may square pegs jammed into too many round holes for all his pieces to fit. But time may tell.

Of most value is Oglesby's chapter on the crash of United Airlines flight 553 in Chicago on December 8, 1972. To refresh your memory, this was the crash that killed Mrs. E. Howard Hunt and Michelle Clark of CBS, among others. Oglesby provides a previously unfound forum for researcher Sherman Skolnick of Chicago who has done, apparently, a good deal of homework on the flight of UAL 553.

It seems that "the FBI was all over Dorothy Hunt at the time of the crash, despite Ruckelshaus' protest that Mrs. Hunt's presence on 553 was 'unknown to the FBI at that time.'"

The next day, December 9, 1972, Egil "Bud" Krogh shifted from the White House and was appointed undersecretary of the Department of Transportation. The National Transportation Safety Board is under the control of DOT and investigated the crash.

Ten days later, December 19, Alexander "Loose Lips" Butterfield was appointed administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration. The Bureau of Aviation Safety, also investigating the crash, is under the thumb of the FAA.

And clean-cut dirty-trickster Dwight Chapin left the White House the following January to join UAL's Chicago office as "director of market planning."

The cyanide levels found in some of the victims is also intriguing but it would be speculation on my part to attach any particular significance to them. I am not a forensic pathologist and know little of airplane fires.

There are also some good technical questions raised about UAL 553's flight recorders, altimeters, "the stickshaker", and the "Kedzie Localizer/Outer Marker."

There is also an okay chapter detailing some basic biographical material on alleged double-agent James McCord.

Of course, there is the now-obligatory "Hughes Connection" chapter, but I skipped it.

One small point. In his discourse on MLK/James Earl Ray, Oglesby writes, "...it may ring a distant bell to learn that (Percy) Foreman was also one of Jack Ruby's lawyers during the no-conspiracy period." Oglesby fails to take the next step by pointing out that Foreman was a lawyer for Ruby for just four days--March 20-23, 1964. This was after Ruby had been convicted (later overturned) and Melvin Belli had been fired by Ruby's family.

For my money, I'd just as soon leave $12 in the ABC store.

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Betrayal by Robert Morrow. Henry Regnery Co., Chicago

Reviewed by Lloyd Steele
Reprinted by permission of BooksWest magazine

Morrow was a contract employee of the CIA, and this is his version of the assassination of John Kennedy. But this "reconstruction" is really only one more guess as to what happened in Dealey Plaza. His association with the supposed assassins was remote--he met David Ferrie on a few jobs; picked up drops from Oswald (who is revealed here as a CIA agent, as is Jack Ruby); and he did purchase three Mannlicher-Carcanno rifles for Clay Shaw in New Orleans. But what seems artless may really be the most artful of dodges. The package is almost too neat, as if Morrow had set out to reconstruct a scenario that would take into account all the conspiracy theories and thereby satisfy all the critics. Disinformation?

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The Taking of America 1-2-3 by Richard E. Sprague, Hartsdale, N.Y., 1976 216p.,$10

This is a privately published limited edition of 500 copies published by Sprague, and availible from him at 193 Pinewood Rd, Hartsdale, N.Y. 10530. Add 75 cents for postage & handling.

Maybe 90% of this book has already appeared in some form in People and the Pursuit of Truth and the Computers and Automation series. Despite a preponderance of typo errors, it is worth having. My copy arrived badly mauled by the P.O., or someone, but was replaced by the author in only a week. How about that!

Sprague is collaborating with Dick Russell on a book to be publshed this year. We eagerly await it.--WILLIAM BURKE

Cover-Up by J. Gary Shaw with Larry R. Harris (Published by the authors, Cleburne, Texas, 1976.) 227 pages. 200 photos. $10.95

This book contains so many photos that it will be of great value to researchers. The added convenience of having them under one cover makes this book a worthwhile addition to the researcher's collection. One picture, in fact, is printed for the first time ever. Taken just seconds after the bullets flew in Dealey Plaza, U.S.A., by an Army Intelligence officer who just happened to be on the scene (Army Intelligence had been ordered not to take part in the President's security arrangements), it shows the southwesternmost window of the sixth floor of the Book Depository. The purported "sniper's nest", you will recall, was in the southeasternmost corner of that floor. Previously published pictures of the face of the building at the time of the assassination had always been cropped short (east) of the last pair of windows. But this photo shows both windows of the westernmost pair to be wide open, thus lending creedence to the claims of many researchers that shots came from that location.

Cover-Up is written for the layman. No advanced theory. No technical stuff. As such, it is fairly effective, but the potential reader is cautioned to approach several of the arguments presented with care.

One matter very much open to question is the authors' use of a number of "shakes" or jiggles which can be seen at intervals in the Zapruder film. The fact is that the film is virtually filled with such jiggles. If the jiggles are Zapruder's reaction to the sound of shots, then someone was using a machine gun in Dealey Plaza. The jiggles are caused by a mechanical problem in the camera which caused the film to periodically slip slightly. They are of no value in determining the number, spacing, or sequence of shots.

The authors postulate the first of seven shots at Zapruder frame 209 (there is considerable evidence to indicate a shot as early as Z-185), and the last at Z-318 (miss). Furthermore, they amazingly place the Connally chest shot at Z-289, about 2.8 seconds after the frame most researchers think the Governor was hit (Z-230-238). Governor Connally can clearly be seen reacting to a hit by Z-238. The Warren Commission's infamous "single-bullet theory" held that the bullet that transited Connally's thorax went on through his right wrist, and into his left thigh. But Connally does not release the Stetson in his right hand until after Z-289, hence the authors' explanation. We believe other explanations are more reasonable:

(1) The shot through the wrist simply did not cause him to loosen his grip.
(2) The wrist was hit by a fragment of the JFK head shot at Z-312-313.
(3) The wrist was hit by a separate bullet entirely.

At any rate, the observable reactions of Connally way before Z-289 can be attributed to nought but a bullet wound of the thorax.

Chapter Eight, called "The Hope", is a religious tract, complete with biblical quotations (lots), on how renewed trust in God and acceptance of Jesus Christ as Saviour will enable us to track down the true culprits. I, for one, could have done without it.--WILLIAM BURKE

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Nov. 22 by Michael Eddowes. Spearman (Jersey) Ltd. London. 1976. 352 pages.

One well-known and respected researcher-writer suggested in reply to a query of mine that review or discussion of this book was a waste of time. Perhaps he is right. The thesis of the book is patently absurd; errors of fact and of interpretation of fact literally abound. In fact it may be even more ridiculous than McDonald's Appointment in Dallas. Lest someone take this book seriously, we will briefly review it here and hope to save someone a few bucks.

Basically, Eddowes' thesis is that the American-born Lee Harvey Oswald (we will call him LHO-A) went to the Soviet Union, there to be liquidated and replaced by a murderous identical Russian (we will designate him LHO-R), who was then sent to this country to obliterate our President. Aside from the question of why Khruschev would want to put Lyndon Johnson in the White House, there are many serious problems with Eddowes' thinking, if you can call it that.

The agent, LHO-R, we are told, accomplished his task with the aid of Israeli-Russian secret agent Jack Rubenstein (aka Ruby). LHO-R fired from the sniper's nest in the sixth-floor window of the Texas School Book Depository, firing alone and utilizing the famous single bullet fired from the dread Mannlicher-Carcano. Obviously it takes a Russian to accomplish the impossible. But LHO-R was firing at a President.

We are further told that when LHO-A was sent to the hospital in Russia after his attempted "suicide", he could only communicate with his doctors by gestures, since he could not speak Russian! Now, aside from the fact that it is a matter of record that Oswald taught himself Russian in the Marines (with some help along the way, perhaps), subscribed to Russian-language publications, and was furthermore referred to as "Oswaldovitch" by his fellow Marines, the idea that he would defect to Russia not knowing the language at all is utterly absurd. It is true that some people defect to the U.S. without knowing English, but defections to the U.S.S.R. by non-Russian speaking persons are rare indeed.

One of agent Rubenstein's assignments, according to Eddowes, was to befriend one Alfred Davidson, a representative of Oleg Cassini. The purpose was to--hold on to your hat--find out what color dress Jackie would be wearing in Dallas so that LHO-R would be able to better pick out his target! Jesus!

There are lots of other gems. We are told that the taxi the Red assassin took in his escape from the scene of the crime was "the only taxi he ever took while in the U.S." Eddowes does raise some legitimate questions as to the discrepancies in height recorded at various times for the person or persons known as Lee Harvey Oswald. But he raises them for the wrong reasons, again. Eddowes is English, and the English obviously have a fascination with the Soviets that goes beyond mere dislike. But they aren't going to pin this one on the Russkies.

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ERRATUM: Page [4], paragraph 5, line 4 should read "Army-Air Force football game." Not Navy. Sorry.